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FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4103
INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
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AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN
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C O N F I D E N T I A L KINGSTON 5723
E.O.12065: GDS 7-31-86 (LELAWRENCE) OR-AMB
TAGS: PINT, JM
SUBJECT: VIOLENCE UPLATE NO 3.
1. C-ENTIRE TEXT.
2. SUMMARY: THERE WERE 26 MURDERS IN JAMAICA DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD JULY 23-29 IN ADDITION, 14 INDIVIDUALS WERE KILLED BY MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY FORCES. FORMER PRIME MINISTER HUGH SHEARER WAS ATTACKED AND WOUNDED ON HIS WAY TO A POLITICAL RALLY. SECURITY FORCES HAVE ESTABLISHED MORE JOINT POLICE MILITARY COMMAND POSTS IN THE MOST TROUBLED AREAS OF KINGSTON. NIGHTLY CURFEWS AND ROADBLOCKS CONTINUE.
3. JULY 23-29
A. TOTAL NUMBER OF REPORTED MURDERS 25
B. SUSPECTED POLITICALLY MOTIVATED MURDERS 2
C. SUSPECTED CRIMINALLY MOTIVATED MURDERS 6
D. MURDERS OF UNKWNON MOTIVATION 17
IN ADDITION 14 PEOPLE WERE KILLED BY THE SECURITY FORCES IN THE COURSE OF THEIR DUTY DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD.
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(THESE STATISTICS ARE FROM THE DAILY GLEANER WHICH REPORTS INFORMATION FROM THE POLICE INFORMATION CENTER (PIC)
4. SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS.
A. MEDICAL PERSONNEL WORKING AT THE KINGSTON PUBLIC HOSPITAL, THE CITY' LARGEST, LOCATED IN OPPOSITION LEADER EDWARD SEAGA'S CONSTITUENCES, HAVE RECEIVED THREATS ON THEIR LIVES AND THE HOSPITAL HAS BEEN FIRED ON BY GUNMEN ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS. FOLLOWING A THREAT BY THE STAFF TO STOP WORKING SECURITY FORCES ESTABLISHED A 24 HOUR GUARD TO PROTECT THE HOSPITAL. IT IS INTERESTING TO NOTE THAT TREVOR MUNCRE, HEAD OF THE COST PARTY OF JAMAICA (WPL) HAS BEEN TRYING IN RECENT MONTHS TO ORGANIZE A UNION IN THE HOSPITAL.
B. ON JULY 23 AN ARMED GANG NUMBERING MORE THAT 30 MEN WAS SURPRIZED BY POLICE WHILE LOOTING A GARMENT STORE IN CENTER KINGSTON. EIGHT OF THE GUNMEN WERE KILLED AND

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THE REST ESCAPED.
ALSO ON JULY 23, THE POLICE FOUND A BODY WHICH BORE A TAG READING, "ANTHONY BROWN? TRYING TO STOP PROGRESS." THIS WOULD BE TAKEN BY JAMAICANS AS INDICATING A JLP SUPPORTER KILLED BY LEFTIST GUNMEN.
L. ON JULY 24 POLICE RECOVERED TWO .357 MAGNUM REVOLVERS FROM THE BODIES ON TWO ARMED MEN AFTER A GUN BATTLE IN THE TROUBLED OLYMPIC GARDENS AREA KINGSTON.
E. THE PRESIDENT OF THE BUSTAMENTE INDUSTRIAL TRADE UNION (BITU) AND FORMER PRIME MINISTER HUG SHEARER, WAS WOUNDED IN A ATTACK ON HIS CAR WHILE EN ROUTE TO A POLITICAL RALLY IN MONTEGO BAY. (KINGSTON 5605) SHEARER RECEIVED A CUT REQUIRING SIX STICHES AND A SLIGHT CRANIAL FRACTURE WHEN HE WAS SRTRUCK IN THE HEAD BY A PROJECTILE FIRED INTO HIS CAR(THERE IS SOME CONFUSION AS TO WHETHER A LOCALLY MADE SPEARGUN OR A AIRGUN WAS USED. JLP SOURCES CLAIM TO HAVE THE ACTUAL SPEAR)
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F. ON JULY 28 THE SECURITY FORCES ANNOUNCED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SEVEN MORE JOINT POLICE MILITARY COMMAND POSTS THROUGHOUT THE KINGSTON CORPORATE AREA. THESE WILL SUPPLEMENT THE TWO, COMMAND POSTS ALREADY IN EXISTENCE. THIS ACTION CONTINUES THE INCREASED ANTI-CRIME MEASURES. ANNOUNCED BY THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL ON JULY 18.
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